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MII Playback

Monthly Newsletter of the MII Users Association of America

July 1991

Vol. 1, No.4

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MII Users Association of America c/o GMG International, Inc. 8580 Cinderbed Road, Suite 1000 Newington, VA 22122





Commentary from the Executive Director

The JVC Issue

Throughout our early efforts to form a national association, we have not addressed the issue of JVC manufactured MII components and the special need of JVC users. In recent months, we have had several discussions with top officials at JVC in an effort to form a rapport that would allow us to effectively represent a growing contingent of our membership that owns JVC MII equipment. We have endeavored to do this for two reasons:

o There are several JVC MII user members who have contacted us concerning issues about support with JVC equipment.

o There are persistent industry rumors that JVC is considering dropping the MII format.

We have referred the issues outlined by users to Mr. Jim Turner of JVC Sales. We have let him know that we wish to assist JVC in any way possible to coordinate user issues in an effort to resolve any problems. We will be reporting in the next newsletter on exactly what actions JVC is taking regarding the issues presented by our user members. In addition we will contact JVC users individually regarding these actions. In the interim, we are providing a regional map of JVC Service Centers in this issue which was sent to us by Mr. Chuck Sterchele of JVC Service and Engineering who has been extremely responsive on service issues.

On the issue of JVC dropping MII, the association has made it clear we are steadfastly against such an action. Currently JVC is only producing the KRM-820 unit for the American market. JVC's new MII line shown at NAB has yet to be distributed in America although there are rumors it is being sold in Europe. According to Mr Dave Walton, JVC Pro Products Professional Marketing Manager, "JVC is committed to the MII format". When I asked him how long this commitment would last, he could not comment, but agreed to forward a faxed request for the answers to that question and a response on JVC's future MII product offerings in America, to Japan for a definitive answer. The fax request as transmitted to Mr. Walton is shown here:

July 29, 1991

JVC Company of America Attn: Mr. Dave Walton

Dear Dave.

Pursuant to our discussion of July 26, 1991 the MII Users Association of America is seeking direct responses to the following issues:

When will the most recent generation of JVC MII equipment exhibited at NAB 91 and currently for sale in Japan and Europe be available in the United States of America?

How long does JVC plan to continue manufacturing the MII line? Is there any truth to the rumor that the MII line is being dropped by JVC?

Are there playback and interference differences between JVC's MII and Panasonic's MII? If so, when will a bulletin be issued from JVC regarding these interference difficulties?

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We represent over 170 MII facility members nationally on issues that concern our membership. Many of our members own JVC equipment and are concerned about JVC's continued support of this format. We seek a response from Japan, if possible, and look forward to your prompt response.

Thank you for your prompt attention to these matters.

Sincerely yours

David R. Gardy

Executive Director
MII Users Association of America

We are currently awaiting a response.

Although JVC's MII line was originally set up to fulfill NBC's purchase prerequisite for a second source for the MII components, the JVC line has come to mean much more than that to the many small facility owners that invested in it. I was always impressed with the JVC features available for the price. More over, its obvious after discussions with our users that the JVC line is fulfilling a unique market niche.

It is clear that JVC's current market push is to sell SVHS, but that does not mean it is time to abandon MII. There are idiosyncrasies with JVC MII components that result in different service procedures than are required by Panasonic gear, and consequently a dedicated JVC service commitment is required. The association feels the best way to maintain that required service commitment is to continue the design and manufacturing commitment that should accompany JVC's continued dedication to producing the format. As an association of committed end users we will work in earnest to insure that format commitment continues.

We seek to open the doors of communication with JVC. We are hoping to keep JVC exposed to the importance of maintaining a commitment to a product format and we are willing to work with JVC personnel towards that end by keeping them appraised of user needs. Since 1980 I have owned almost every JVC product line offered. The company's innovative marketing approach to an affordable 3/4 " product line and professional quality 3 tube cameras helped me start my company.

But there are many (especially at JVC) who feel the company's elimination of the CR-850 3/4" product line was premature. (The resulting black market for used CR-850 units that exists even to this day is testimonial to the fact that the move may not have served the needs of all JVC users for years to come.)

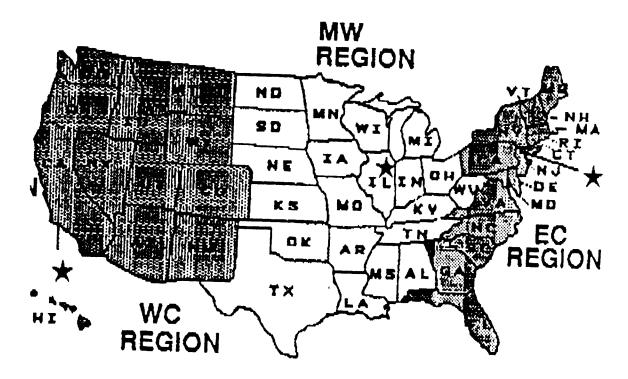
The investment made by facilities that believe in JVC MII in some cases represent lifetime savings, mortgaged houses, and blood, sweat and tears in building a business...Subjecting JVC MII to the same fate as JVC 3/4" simply isn't equitable. These users deserve to have the manufacturer believe in the format as much as they do. We seek JVC's response to our questions...and we are prepared to publish any statement they wish to send us regarding the issues outlined herein.

David R. Gardy Executive Director

MII Users Association of America

JVC REGIONAL MAP FOR SERVICE/PARTS/AND TECH SUPPORT

PROFESSIONAL PRODUCT SERVICE For Service & Tech Support Call (201) 808-9497



EASTERN REGION
107 Little Falls Road
Fairfield, NJ 07004
(201) 808-9279 (SERVICE & TECH SUPPORT)
(201) 808-6873 (PARTS ONLY)
PARTS FAX NO. (201) 808-0253

WESTERN REGION
5665 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
(714) 229-8011 (SERVICE & TECH SUPPORT)
(714) 229-8000 (PARTS ONLY)
PARTS FAX NO. (714) 952-2305

HAWAII BRANCH (808) 833-5828 (PARTS & SERVICE) TELE-FAX NO. (808) 833-4428 MID WEST REGION
2250 Lively Boulevard
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
(708) 364-0880 (SERVICE & TECH SUPPORT)
(708) 364-0887 (PARTS ONLY)
PARTS FAX NO. (708) 364-5340

SOUTH EAST REGION 1500 Lakes Parkway Lawrenceville, GA 30243 (404) 339-2582 (SERVICE & TECH SUPPORT) (201) 808-6873 (PARTS ONLY)

SOUTH WEST REGION 407 Garden Oaks Boulevard Houston, TX 77018 (713) 694-3331 (PARTS, SERVICE & TECH SUPPORT) TELE-FAX NO. (713) 694-7132

The MII Story: From a Dealer's Perspective

Executive Directors note: Paul Farren of Communications Televideo Limited (CTL) is a Silver Spring, Maryland dealer who has been supporting the MII format since it's inception in 1986-87. He has been there through thick and thin for all the MII users in the mid-atlantic and he has many battle scars to prove it. In the interest of getting more dealers to provide input to the association (as we have many dealer Members), I asked him to give us a "mind-dump" one day, describing the MII format from his perspective...ad a dealer in a large market. The following is an un-edited transcript from a speaker-phone recording on July 30, 1991. I asked Paul to "tell it like it is", and whether you agree or not, he did. We're grateful for the time he took out of his sales day to do it.

Interview with Paul Farren of Communications Televideo Limited, Silver Spring, Maryland July 30, 1991

"Basically, from a dealer's perspective, especially a dealer who does not sell Betacam, MII was our first opportunity to sell into a broadcast format, aside from 1" and Betacam. When MII was first introduced, we were very excited about it because it was a new format and had been accepted by NBC, as well as it had been picked as the de facto standard by NHK in Japan as being the superior recorded format: NHK had issued a request for proposals for various types of formats and MII was the winner. We immediately saw it as a viable and important format and we had hoped that it would be extremely popular. One problem was that we, as dealers, did not have immediate or direct access to MII and it was only through a lot of lobbying and persuading and local direct representatives like Joe Wertla, of Commercial Video Representatives, that helped get the dealer involved in MII Sales. Panasonic had originally taken the stand that it was a hoity-toity Broadcast format and that it was only really supposed to be available to Broadcasters and they didn't really care very much whether a dealer sold it or not. This made it very difficult for the dealers to get updated information and literature on it, but once again, thanks to Joe Wertla, he kept us very well abreast of MII and also provided a means for us to provide MII equipment to smaller production companies, which was not the initial marketing outlook of Panasonic. I think that, that was a tremendous mistake on Panasonic's part that they did not give it to the dealers initially; if they had I think the format would have been far more prevalent than it was in its formative, struggling years.

That brings us up to the present where the second generation of MII equipment that Panasonic has completely redesigned, and by the use of large scale integrated circuits (LSIs), has reduced the cost, the weight and the complexity of the MII format and has actually gone through an improvement and made it quite an affordable format. Now you have a true broadcast format with such things as Hi-Fi or FM audio, as well as linear audio, and automatic tracking, the equivalent to Betacam's Dynamic tracking, very clear freeze frame/slow motion, etc., provided to an end-user at a cost basically near what broadcast 3/4" equipment had been. So, you now have a true broadcast format available to end-users with a budget, like small production companies, government agencies and schools who do not have \$30,000 per machine to spend for editors, etc. Now, simultaneously with the reduction in price and new generation of machines, Panasonic has gone through a large change in their marketing strategy where they did provide MIIs to their higher end dealers, and this has increased the prevalence of MII substantially over the last year or so. Ever since Panasonic introduced and provided them to the dealers, they have substantially expanded their base of people who are promoting the equipment, and your MII Users Association should be growing weekly at a relatively good pace.

Along the way, JVC formed its own MII line to just be a second company providing an alternative source of MII equipment so that it would not be a one-source situation. Over the years they made a pretty good commitment: they came out with their own design equipment as well putting their name on some of the Panasonic lines of equipment. They have actually produced two MII units: the original KRM800, which was a very simplistic and inexpensive MII machine, and later the KRM820, which is a quite unique machine and very, very cost effective, especially for people who are looking to do A/B roll editing on a budget. It is a machine that has a list price of \$12,190 with time code, that includes an A/B roll editing controller built into it, so for virtually the price of an editor you're also getting an editor with an A/B roll controller which will control two source machines. They can be additional KRM820s, AU-65s, or even AU-520s. Now, for some reason, JVC stopped selling the Panasonic equipment that they had been putting their name on (I think that was due to availability from Panasonic), but JVC's commitment to MII has not been as strong as that of Panasonic, in fact they are kind of waffling on MII; in other words, they are taking the position that "if it takes off we'll go with it, otherwise we'll just produce the KRM820". But frankly the availability of KRM820s has been fairly slow. Whenever we have ordered one it has taken generally quite some time for us to get it, so they are certainly not manufacturing a large number of these and inventorying them; it is on a small basis, even though it is quite an interesting machine.

MII is still a very, very good format; it is being used more and more by a lot of graphics people for animation and computer graphics, etc., as well as used by companies for normal production uses. One of the important points is that the MII is full broadcast quality. The exact same equipment that NBC is currently using, as C-Span is using, as C&P Telephone and all the users of the MII Association are using, at a very cost effective price.

Sony has recently countered with their low-cost Beta product but when in fact they came out with their product, they made some noticeable compromises in the product features. For instance, they did not include FM/Hi-Fi recording and no dynamic tracking for slow motion. So if these qualities are important factors in your production, MII still remains an extremely viable format, where you can get full a broadcast quality recording and production system at a substantially lower cost than for its equivalent competitor, Betacam SP (not the new stripped down Betacam).

There are new products coming out which Panasonic is marketing: The 1/2" digital format, which is an evolution of Panasonic's broadcast, and it is my understanding that at this time it is not a product that dealers are able to sell. But if dealers have a client that requires this product, we will put Panasonic broadcast people in touch with our clients and they will take over the sale. As a dealer, I am not very comfortable with this situation because the tape recording format is certainly not the only thing required for a production company; there is going to be tremendous peripheral support necessary as far as switchers and various other components in the digital domain that will be necessary in creating digital effects. I seriously hope Panasonic does not make the same mistake with their 1/2" digital format that they did with the MII during its first years and not allow this large dealer network to promote the format. There are a number of clients that dealers have that would be candidates for the higher quality digital format, but it is my understanding right now that question is still up in the air, and I hope that it is resolved in favor of allowing the dealers to sell the 1/2" digital directly or even in conjunction with the Panasonic Broadcast people rather that just turn over the sale to them.

Tape consignment is an issue many users are concerned about. Tape consignment to me as a dealer would certainly be preferable to buying and storing tape. However, we dealers are inventorying tape because of our commitment to the format. We realize that if we have customers out there with machines, we have to stock tape in order to support

those customers. It is a significant financial burden because the tape is expensive and some people use large quantities of it. Of course, we would prefer that it be on consignment, but we are not sure how realistic that is.

Another issue is the training of dealership technicians in the MII format; that has been somewhat of a fiasco. We have signed our people up for training no less than three times, and to my knowledge no training seminars have taken place so far, and I believe we first signed up in November of last year. It was then scheduled for February, and then moved to April, and rescheduled again two or three times. Not that it is vitally important: the MII equipment does seem to be quite reliable, and we have not had a lot of need to service the equipment. The local Panasonic technicians that are to service it I think are excellent, but quite backed up from time to time, from what I hear. Our local tech, Mike Vaia was predominantly there for NBC. But as far as I know he has serviced everyone of my MII users in one way or another, although he is not the easiest person to reach, and sometimes it takes him quite some time. That's just like anything else; if you have one technician and multiple machines with problems, he is only one person. So, it would certainly be important for the MII division of Panasonic to educate as many dealership personnel as possible in servicing MII equipment to alleviate that problem. In fact, when MII was first introduced, they were advertising this broadcast 24 hour turnaround period where "you get it to us and we will turn it around to you in 24 hours," and they were really highly profiling their commitment to really professional network quality service, but I have not really found that to be the case. We as a dealership would like our personnel to be trained so that we can offer such quick turnaround to people. People who are buying this level of equipment are people who highly depend on having this equipment functional all the time. If they are down for one day, that can mean thousands of dollars of time. Generally, most of my customers are smaller production companies, and they do not have the resources to inventory stand-by machines, just in case something should go down. We, as the dealer, have demonstration equipment, but this demonstration equipment is precisely for that; it is demonstration equipment and we cannot take that equipment out of our show room to provide loaner equipment.

I am very, very enthusiastic to Panasonic agreeing to provide the MII Users Association with equipment to help provide this gap. I Have referred a number of potential clients who have wanted to try the MII equipment to the Users Association, and I have had outstanding support from the MII Users Association in trying to help promote the format and provide people adequate hands on experience with MII that we as dealers really haven't been able to provide. We cannot let our demonstration equipment go out; it is here for a number of salespeople to use. The MII Users Association in that aspect has been very important to the dealers in helping in emergency situations and in giving the people a place to go and use the equipment."

News Flash!

From the Executive Director....

At the time of this printing, Panasonic is revising its service procedure to provide quicker response, 24 hours a day, seven days a week out of the Secaucus, New Jersey headquarters. The new program is the brainchild of Mr. Bart Kulescz, formerly of Quantel, who is taking over as service manager for Trevor Smith. I had the pleasure to meet Bart over dinner and discuss his planned approach to upgrade service support. He is committed to total customer satisfaction and is taking a hands on attitude to meeting user needs. Detail of his new program will be discussed in the next issue. For the latest details call Debbie at user headquarters (800) 966-1030.

Letters From Users

From George Phelps, AAACHEN Productions, Miami, Florida:

"Thank you for having sent the newsletters. I found them to be useful and informative. I think what MII Users Association of America is doing adds a lot of credibility to Panasonic's MII product line. If I have been exposed to such news letters sooner, then I no doubt would have purchased the MII line much quicker. I hesitated for one year on the purchase of the MII gear due to lack of confidence in MII and Panasonic's support of MII. Your newsletter create credibility for the product.

P.S. Add one word to "Sony Only"...Boloney!"

From Ed Janik, Ed Janik Productions, Pleasant Plains, Illinois:

"I am very pleased to hear about the MII Users Association of America. I have been the owner of an AU-60 for about a year now and have been very pleased with its' performance. In fact, I've been looking forward to the day when I can acquire more of the MII line.

I produce specialty videos for national distribution, mostly dance-instruction videos, and up to now have recorded my material on Hi8, then mastered on MII. This works very well because in my opinion, the master looks better than the original! How can this be? Simple. When you play back on the Hi8 EVO-9800, many undesirable artifacts on the Hi8 tape are eliminated with the DOC. The signal then makes its way thru my FA-300 TBC which transcodes to a component signal onto the MII. So I start with a "raw" composite Hi8 signal and end up with a "clean" component signal on MII. It's great!!! Sony is aware that I am (or was at the time) the only production house using exclusively Hi8 for capture. I would, however like to switch over to MII for this someday. Perhaps you could play a role in this.

I would like very much to promote MII as much as possible and work with other MII users."

From Marvin Mitchell, Operations Manager, Video Communications Systems, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota:

"A recent article in Post magazine talked about a nation MII users group you have organized. I am most interested in this group.

Mayo Clinic has been a heavy MII user for two years. Our main facility in Rochester, Minnesota has extensive field MII equipment, central mastering and duplicating equipment, and a complete post-production suite. We have recently added MII A/B roll editing at our Jacksonville, Florida practice and will be purchasing similar equipment for our Scottsdale, Arizona clinic.

All three of our sites are fairly isolated from other MII users and we have to seek out users at ITVA and NAB. The availability of a national users group would provide an excellent forum for the exchange of information not otherwise available.

If you would be so kind, please send me any available information on the MII users group. We are excited about the prospect of membership"

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From Ken Muehlbauer, President, Avonix Video Systems Inc., Milwaukee, Wisconsin:

"I recently received a copy of your MII users association April 1991 newsletter. I would like to congratulate and encourage you on the development of this users association. I am sincerely disappointed that I hadn't heard of this earlier and we would have been delighted to become involved earlier.

As an introduction, Avonix is a 28 year old television systems organization. We are a dealer for a very broad range of professional broadcast and industrial audio/video systems and equipment. We became associated as a sales representative/distributor for MII in late 1986. We were one of the early organizations to recognize that MII was an outstanding and bonafide professional video technology.

In our market we have had outstanding success and Avonix is recognized as one of the leading distributors for MII in the country.

Avonix has been stocking MII tape since 1987. We try to keep all popular lengths in stock at all times. As you are aware, this has been recently very difficult to accomplish and we hope your association can become successful in encouraging Panasonic to provide a higher stocking level and faster delivery to their dealers on MII tape. You might try to encourage that they give dealers such as ourselves who are dedicated to stocking it (where some dealers do not stock tape, they place the order with the factory as they receive your order) a better discount which will even continue to encourage us to maintain adequate levels of MII tape inventory."

From Eric Ciel, Eric Ciel Videotaping, Phonixville, Pennsylvania:

"It was great talking with you the other week. Thank you for listing me among the country's MII users-a distinction that will undoubtedly help bring to me exactly the sort of information I want very much at this point in time. I saw the ad in In Motion magazine. I hope it helps spread the word and stimulates interest.

I went to a trade show near here recently and got a chance to see some MII equipment in action at the Panasonic booth. My, my, my how nice. It doth make one's mouth water in anticipation of things to one day come!

Thank you for taking the time to tell me about the association over the phone, and I hope your efforts are starting to bear fruit. Panasonic is really a great company and the format deserves wider acceptance. To heck with Snooty Sony and Company."

From Ken Santucci, AMPROD, Chantilly, Virginia:

"As a charter member in the association, I'm very pleased with the progress to date. I would like to suggest a quarterly priority issue list as defined by the executive director and used to leverage the membership.

Once the manufacturers realize that the association is more than merely production technicians, perhaps the association can accept special purpose contracts and grants. For example, test market a new position statement or market research, reactions, critique presentation materials, etc. Let me know your thoughts, I've got lots more."

If you'd like to contribute your thoughts for the next issue, we'd love to hear from you. Please send all comments to:

> MII Users Association of America c/o GMG International, Inc. 8580 Cinderbed Rd. Suite 1000 Newington, VA 22122

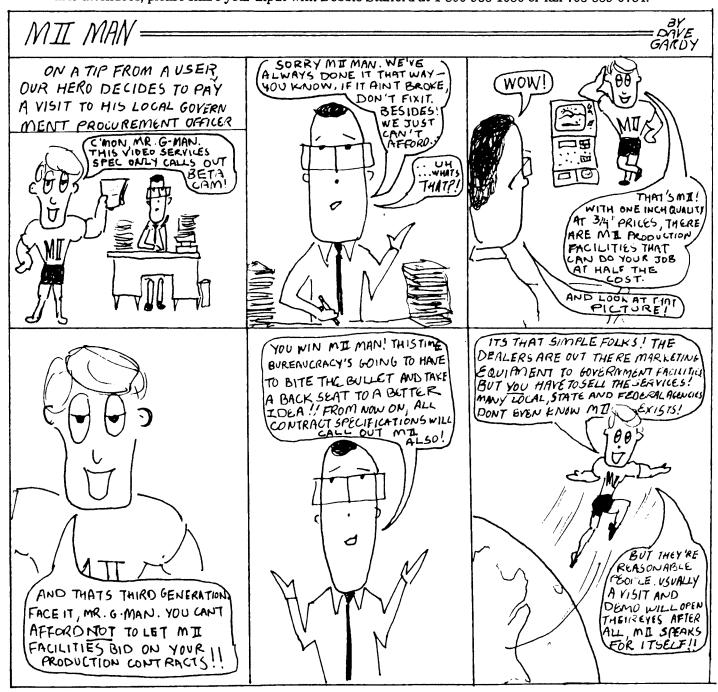
Attn: Debbie or fax (703)339-0764.

MII Users Day Scheduled for October 3 & 4, 1991

The MII Users Association Board of Trustees has selected October 3 and 4, 1991 as this years "Users Day". The Users Day will be held at a hotel location to be announced in the Washington, D.C. area at which time representitives of Panasonic and JVC will be on hand to meet with users in a seminar/workshop type environment. In addition, Panasonic will feature various equipment exhibits.

The two day event will include Associations committee meetings, discussions of critical MII issues and award presentations for the MII Video Production Award contest. Various other special activities are planned including an informal golf tournament, and the MII users association Exhibit facility in Newington, VA will be open to all members.

More details regarding this event will be forthcoming in next month's newsletter. If you think you might attend or if you have any ideas you think would help make a national meeting more benificial for user attendees, please share your input with Debbie Stafford at 1-800-966-1030 or fax 703-339-0764.



WPSD-TV Engineer Details DXC-300/AU-500 Interface Procedure and AU-650 Pinch Roller Tech Tip

The following was recently provided to us by Senior Maintenance Engineer, Jim Franklin of WPSD-TV Paducah, Kentucky. Thank you Jim!

Dear MII Users Association,

Enclosed you will find a copy of the article for mating a Sony DXC-3000 camera to a Panasonic AU-500. If distributed, some readers/members may recall an article in Television Broadcast, April 1988. It was, unfortunately, incorrect on my part. The enclosed version is correct. I was gratified to note the idea of the mating was a valid one as proven by the June Newsletter article on the Betacam/MII interface.

Also submitted to Television Broadcast, but never printed, was an article on an AU-650 problem as follows:

TECH TIP

Symptom: The front panel display of the AU-650 indicated "REEL MOTOR" and went into "AUTO OFF". Occurred in normal Play and sometimes x1 speed (or less) Shuttle.

Action: Naturally, it was assumed that either the supply or the takeup reel motor, or drive circuit was bad. When experimentation proved nothing, a new reel motor was installed in first one side then the other but, the problem still persisted on an intermittent basis.

Cure: One weary eyed engineer finally noted that the pinch roller seemed to stop just before the auto off event. On the next try, the pinch roller was halted by hand and the symptom(s) Occurred. Removal, and inspection, of the pinch roller revealed the bearing to be very rough and more importantly, it was "hanging up" often in the forward direction while not doing so in the reverse direction. The original reel motors were installed, along with a new pinch roller, and the unit operated for one hour with no shutdown.

It goes without saying that a number of rollers should be kept on hand. Much cheaper than a reel motor. The above occurred in several more units and again, the pinch roller replacement cured the problem.

A sidebar to this: it's difficult for two hands to change the pinch assembly. We developed a little "third hand" tool to aid the change. Works for us. If you think it's desirable, I can send the mechanical details of the tool.

Regards

Jim Franklin

Mating Sony Cameras to MII Recorders

Have you invested in several Sony DXC-3000 CCD cameras and later found new Panasonic AU-500 MII recorders in house? Here's how to "marry" them.

You will need to order, for each pair-up, a Sony CCQZ-2V camera to VCR cable. No modification of the cable or Sony camera is necessary and, you only need a switch, one resistor and a few inches of wire.

First, remove the top and bottom covers of the AU-500 in order to expose the six screws securing the connector panel to the frame. Cabling "hinges" the panel along the bottom.

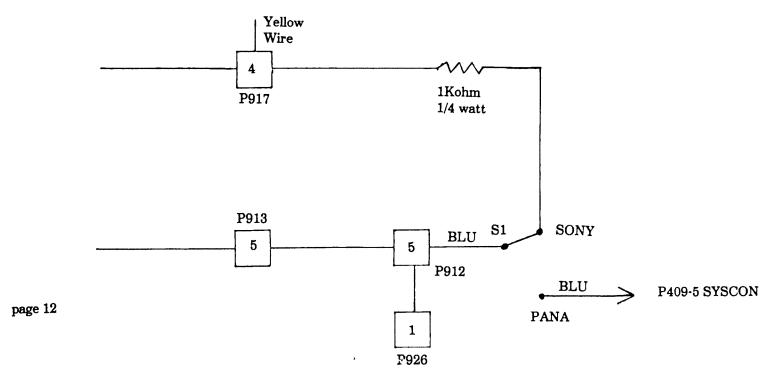
Next remove the screws securing the connector panel PWB. While you will only be able to get about .5 to .75 inch movement, you will need that at the top of the board as you mount the selector switch.

The switch I used is a GC (General Cement) Electronics #35-202, and is mounted between the BNC connectors labeled TIME CODE and SYNC in the upper left part of the panel. Carefully locate your drill site with a pin punch and even more carefully, drill your hole taking extreme caution not to "burst" through and damage the PWB. A vacuum cleaner is also handy to keep drillings from migrating to other areas. Using a Liberal amount of good epoxy cement, insert the switch and allow to dry overnight.

The switch chosen is a slide switch to decrease the possibility of clothing, cable, etc. from accidently catching a toggle. Please note that some "dressing" of the hole is necessary to allow full area of slide. Also, if you do not need to switch between cameras, the modification can be hardwired without the switch which saves a lot of time.

Now locate P912 on the jack panel PWB, near the center. Cut the BLUE wire at pin 5 leaving about .75 inch of wire at the connector. Extend the loose end out of the bundle to one side of the switch to be labeled "PANA". From the other side of the switch, labeled SONY, connect a 1Kohm (1000ohm) .75 watt resistor to P917 pin 4. DO NOT CUT YELLOW WIRE. At the connector, just skin a little insulation off and tack on the resistor (or wire extension). Use heat shrink or insulating tubing where necesary. Extend the .75inch blue wire left at P912 pin 5 to the "wiper arm" of the switch. Other points shown on the diagram are for reference.

This should give you all control functions from either camera including viewfinder playback and monitor audio. Remember that you are still shooting "composite" video with the Sony.



MII Trading Post

Equipment For Sale

Panasonic AU-650's & AU-500's also JVC KRM-800's, KRM 820's, KRM 860's & KRM-460's all at discount prices. Conditions ranging from good to new. For further information call Steve Cohen at BSC (212) 268-8800.

AU 500 Portable MII Videotape Recorder (with Fan), Very low head hours, looks and works like new. Comes with carry case. Contact Joe Gora, Atlanta Video Production Center, call (404) 355-3398 or fax (404) 350-0302.

AU 500 Portable MII Videotape Recorder, New in 1987, Approximately 600 head hours, Excellent working condition. Also includes: Manual and A/C power supply. Asking \$4,500.00 Contact Dan Hall, Video Management Systems, 1004 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202, (317) 639-6163.

AU 500 Portable MII Videotape Recorder, New in 1989, Approximately 160 head hours. Also included: Manual, Portabrace carrying case and five cases of new 20 minute tape stock. Asking \$5,800.00 Contact Bob Abrahamson, West Net Video, 20023 Legend Oak Drive, Humble, TX 77346, (713) 852-7883.

JVC KR-M800U MII Edit Recorder, purchased new June 88. Low head hours, Asking \$7,300.00.

JVC KR-M 460U Portable MII Videotape Recorder, purchased new Dec. 88. Very low head hours. Also included: one Perrott PE-90 Nicad battery pack and charger, all in an Anvil case. Asking \$7,900.00.

JVC SA-T310 TBC for MII, purchased new Aug. 88. Asking \$4,575. Generic Design SCA-850 Parallel to Serial w/timecode send, used with KR-M800U, purchased new June 88. Asking \$1,000.00.

All equipment is in excellent operating condition and has been properly maintained. If you buy the MII equipment as a package, 8% (\$1,662) will be deducted. Additional equipment available. Contact L.A. Lentz, Lentz & Associates, P.O. Box 6181, Raleigh, NC 27628, (919) 828-6761.

JVC KM-1600 Y/C Special Effects Generator, Features:4-Y/C Inputs, Chroma Keying, DSK (Downstream Keyer) function, Auto Transition Function, Color Matte & Color Bars Generator, Flip-Flop Bus, Built in Data Memory, Black Burst, GPI Function. Used in MII A/B Roll Editing System. Price \$4,000.00 Contact Biff VanCleve, Legal Media Center (713) 963-0397.

If you have equipment you would like included in the next Trading Post, give us a call at (800) 966-1030, (703) 339-8500 or Fax (703) 339-0764. (Please contact us when the equipment is sold.)

If you are not currently a member of the MII Users Association of America and would like to join, please contact us by phone, fax or mail at:

MII Users Association of America c/o GMG International, Inc. 8580 Cinderbed Road, Suite 1000 Newington, VA 22122 Attn: Debbie

(800) 966-1030 (703) 339-8500 fax (703) 339-0764*

Ken Santucci of AMPROD Video Appointed to Position of Membership Committee Chairman

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Ken Santucci to the position of membership committee chairman. In this new role he will serve the association membership by enhancing and expanding the membership services that the association provides to all MII users. We wish him luck in his new role and look forward to his innovations in the membership services area.

The following is the first in what will be a series of membership committee columns from Mr. Ken Santucci.

The users association is growing and maturing rapidly. Actually the range of functionality and flexibility of MII users and their production facilities demonstrate the vision and unique creativity of the MII community. It is this observation that has driven the introduction of the Membership Committee. It is my pleasure to coordinate this new function. I'm Ken Santucci of AMPROD (Advanced Marketing Productions). I've had MII since 1987; in fact Dave Gardy lent me my first MII tape. Tape availability was an old issue!

We'll extend the information transfer within the association. One method will be our MII Tips of the Month. You can help by submitting your application examples to the MII Users Association of America c/o GMG International, Inc. 8580 Cinderbed Rd. Suite 1000 Newington, VA 22122, Attn: Tips or fax (703) 339-0764 or submit to my Prodigy ID: HRXP06A.

My application tip for this issue is a recent integration of a Hi8 source. The Canon Hi8 line out through a TBC to the MII AU-650 yielded a good image. The interesting feature, however was the pause function. The resulting still image was very good. One had to anticipate the specific image as in rolling edits but it worked well. The application was a Summer Swim Team Summary.

The integration of formats and equipment are important to all MII users. The Newsletter has highlighted some of these. I'd like to ask for your examples and or questions in order to expand our learning base.

I hope we can share experiences from all association segments-Academic-Broadcast-Cable-Corporate-Non Profits and Government.

antuce,

Ken Santucci

MII Users Association of America MII Video Production Awards

Rules for MII Video Production Awards

The MII Users Association of America, in association with Panasonic, is sponsoring the 1991 MII Production Awards.

Contest Categories are as follows:

1. Television Commercial Spots
2. TV (Self) Promotion
3. Television News or Documentary
4. Television, other
5. Training/Industrial
6. Corporate Promotional/Sales/Communications
7. Non Broadcast, Other
5. Submittal Length
Less than 60 seconds
Less than 60 minutes
Less than 60 minutes
Less than 30 minutes
Less than 30 minutes
Less than 30 minutes

- 8. Best/most creative use of "Low Tech"-Mechanical creativity (ie. globe on string)
- 9. Best/most creative use of Moderate priced equipment (ie. Toaster, other Industrial level equipment)
- 10. Best/most creative use of Hi-Tech equipment
- 11. Funniest Bloopers

All production submissions must be edited on MII and may be shot in any format. Submissions must be on MII (We Recommend component dub of Master). You may submit more than one entry per tape as long as the tape/accompanying documentation is clearly labeled with all information regarding category, title and time code location for each submission on that tape.

Judging Criteria for each of the Categories are as follows:

- 1. Creativity 25 points
 - -Originality
 - -Artistic Merit
 - -Innovative Approaches
 - -Methodology for fulfilling the video's intended purpose.
- 2. Technical Quality 25 points
 - -Colorimetry
 - -Video Levels
 - -Compliance with industry specifications
 - -Resolution
 - -Scene Transitions
 - -Chroma Concurrence
- 3. Production Technique 25 points
 - -Continuity
 - -Camera Angles and Movements
 - -Composition
 - -Cost/Production Value
 - -Integration of effects and graphics.
- 4. Overall accomplishment of purpose 25 points
 - -Based on a "production purpose" statement submitted with the video of 25 words or less.

Please include a listing of relevant hardware and techniques used. Since this is the first year for the contest, you may submit entries from any year, not just this year. Multiple entries encouraged.

Contest submission deadline is September 6, 1991. Send all entries to:

MII Users Association of America c/o Gardy-McGrath International 8580 Cinderbed Road, Suite 1000 Newington, VA 22122

Attn: Video Contest

We will return your tape, if you provide a stamped, self addressed envelope.

Panasonic Technical Bulletins Now Available This month it's the Listing of Bulletins for the AU-650

The Association has obtained a set of Panasonic Technical Bulletins. We are in the process of cataloging all of these bulletins. Currently, only the bulletin listing for the AU-650 is complete. Each month we will run the listing for another MII model until we have covered them all.

Copies of the bulletins are available by submitting your written request to the association at:

MII Users Association of America c/o GMG International, Inc. 8580 Cinderbed Road, Suite 1000 Newington, VA 22122 ATTN: Debbie Fax (703)339-0764

Requests <u>must be in writing</u> and <u>must include model number</u>, <u>bulletin number and subject covered</u>. Also include your name and phone number (in case we have questions) and the complete mailing address for sending the copies to you. We will then send your copies out as soon as possible (we can fax them to you if necessary).

Panasonic Technical Bulletins Listing of Bulletins Available for the AU-650

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Order *	VRDMA 9011002	VROMS 8706077	VROMS 8705078	VEDMS 8705070	VENDING 8705080	VECTOR STOROS	VED NC 6705061	Secure Smuny	28050/8 SMOUN	ASOCO AS CINCON	CBUCU/S CMUHV	08000/0 SMICHA	VED MC 9706088	VRDMS 8706089	VBOMS 8707000	VADMS 8707001	VBDMC 8707000	VENDING BYDYOGY	VEDIMO 6707004	VEDING STOTOGY	VRDMS 8707095	VRDMS 8707097	VRDMS 8707098	VRDMS 8707099	VRDMS 8707100	VRDMS 8707101	VRDMS 8707102	VRDMS 8707103	VRDMS 8711104	VRDMS 8711105	VRDMS 8711106	VRDMS 8801107	VRDMS 8806108	VEDIME BROOMS	VEDIME BROOM	VEDIME BROOTE	VRDMC 8812112	VBDMC 8812112	VRDMS 8904115	VRDMS 8904117
Subject	Service Manual Correction	Small Cassette Motor Voltage	Parts Change	Color / B/W Switching	Loose Shield Plates	Rewind is slow in the REW Mode	Servo Unlocks during Recording and Playhack	Change of Software (P. BOM)	FG AMP and Tana Slack	Change of Software (P.BOM)	Change of Software (P.ROM)	Change of Software (P-BOM)	Incorporation of Production Edit Panel	Audio Pop Noise (Linear Audio)	System Control IC Part Number Correction	Part Numbers for 9P cable	No Y RF Signal from AT Head Armo	NR Circuit Tolerance	Part Number Change	Change of IC	Part Numbers for Front Panel	Color Phase and Level Shift	Audio Pop Noise at Insert	Color Phase Shift	Servo Instability	Green Picture in E-E Mode	Subcarrier Balance Shift	Change of the Upper Flange of the P1 and P7 Posts	Countermeasure for IC Oscillation	Tape Damage	Service Manual Correction	Change of Software (P-ROM)	Change of A/C Head	Service Manual Correction	Service Manual Correction	Service Manual Correction	Improvement of Power Supply Circuit	Standardization of Parts	P-ROM Change	Change of Board Puller
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Model B	AU-650 76	AU-650 77	AU-650 71	AU-650 79	AU-650 80	AU-650 81	AU-650 82		AU-650 84		AU-650 86	AU-650 87	AU-650 88	AU-650 8	AU-650 90	AU-650 91	AU-650 9.	AU-650 9	AU-650 9	AU-650 9	AU-650 9	AU-650 9		AU-650 9		AU-650 1	AU-650 1			•		AU-650 1	AU-650 1	AU-650 1	AU-650 1	AU-650 1	AU-650 1	AU-650 1	•	AU-650 1
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Order #	VRDMS 8704035	VRDMS 8704036	VRDMS 8705037	VRDMS 8705038	VRDMS 8705039	VRDMS 8705040	VRDMS 8705041	VRDMS 8705042	VRDMS 8705043	VRDMS 8705044	VRDMS 8705045	VRDMS 8705046	VRDMS 8705047	VRDMS 8705048	VRDMS 8705049	VRDMS 8705050	VRDMS 8705051	VRDMS 8705052	VRDMS 8705053	VRDMS 8705054	VRDMS 8705055	VRDMS 8705056	VRDMS 8705057	VRDMS 8705058	VRDMS 8705059	VRDMS 8705060	VRDMS 8705061	VRDMS 8705062	VRDMS 8705063	VRDMS 8705064	VRDMS 8705065	VRDMS 8705067	VRDMS 8705068	VRDMS 8705069	VRDMS 8705070	VRDMS 8705071	VRDMS 8705072	VRDMS 8705073	VRDMS 8705075	VRDMS 8705076
Subject	Tape Damage during FF or REW	Upper Drum and the Drum Unit Change	Exploded View of Packaging	improved Product Packaging	Part Numbers for Posts	FM Audio Frequency Characteristic Improvement	Vertical Line After Dubs	2T Puise Smear	Pr and Pb Signal Noise	Crosstalk in WFM Output	Vertical Noise	CSAG	COMPOSITE S/N improvement	FM Audio (CH3) S/N Ratio	TC Leakage	FM Audio S/N	Audio Noise	DG and DP Adjustment	Change of Software (P-ROM)	Y S/N Ratio	Parts Change	Temperature Related Chroma Changes	No REV Function (IC86)	Tension Detector Adjustment	Y Linearity	Chroma Phase and Clamp Ref. Adjustments	Carrier Balance Shift	Misoperation of Direction Detection during X4 Mode	Part Numbers for Knobs and Knob Grips	Eject Button Improvement	ruii Erase Head Standardization	Change of Software	Noise in Picture	Parts Change for VISC	Countermeasure for ENC Non-Linearity	Y Linearity	Maffunction of Leaf Switch	Reel Table Change	improvement of REC EQ Adjustment	mprovement of the LINE OUT Attenator Precision
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MII Users Association of America Membership Listing

2PM Multimedia Jim Wine P.O. Box 2 Linden, VA 22642 (703) 636-4142

3M-Bob Herman 3M Center Building 223-5N-01 St Paul, MN 55119 (612) 736-2549

3M Tape Sales
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AAACHEN Productions George Phelps 11261 S.W. 177th St. Miami, FL 33157 (305) 255-9563

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AHO Graphics
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AME-Bill Messersmith 1133 N. Hollywood Way Burbank, CA 91505 (818) 841-7440

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American Magnetic Media Steve Helmick 5580 Havana Unit 6A Denver, CO 80239 (800) USA-TAPE

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Atlanta Video Production Center Joseph Gora 1570 Northside Dr. NW 240 Atlanta, GA 30318 (404) 355-3398

AVA Productions Dick Slade 1412 Northcrest Drive Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 384-9595 AVEC Electronics Corp. John Heinke 711 Granby St Norfolk, VA 23510 (804) 627-3502

Avon Productions
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Avonix
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Bosworth Graves
Norm Bosworth
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Salt Lake City, UT 84104
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Broadcast Video Productions Jack Miller 480 Main Street Armonk, NY 10504 (914) 273-6649

Business TV Associates
Mark Hewitson
RR 1, Box 71
McLean, IL 61754
(309) 874-2908

Camera Mart
Mitchell Hyman
456 W. 55th St.
New York, NY 10019
(212) 757-6977

Centercom Bob Harmon 5737 W. Hemlock Street Milwaukee, WI 53223 (414) 353-2001

Center Video
Rex Balz
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Century Design
Jody Heurung
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MII Users Association of America Membership Listing

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Channel One Video
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Christian Video Ministries J.D. Dunson HCR 2 Beeville, TX 78102 (512) 358-3416

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Colortone

Jack Miller

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Silver Spring, MD 20910
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(708) 279-1276

Corneratone TV Gary Stuart Signal Hill Dr Wall, PA 15148 (412) 824-3930

Creative Associates
Harrison Peather
626 Bloomfield Ave.
Verona, NJ 07044
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C-SPAN-Brian Lockman 444 North Capitol Street Suite 412 Washington, DC 20001 (202) 737-3220

Data Security Inc.
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David Larson Productions
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5910 N. Lilly Road
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Davis Audio-Visual, Inc. Boward Goldbaum 2100 Clay St. Denver, CO 80211

Dench Video Services, Inc. Tim Dench 9141 Bardstown Rd. Louisville, KY 40291 (502) 239-0229

Don Brown Productions
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867 N. Main St
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E.I. Dupont-Jack Green 901 W. Dupont Ave. Belle, WVA 25015 (304) 357-1835

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Grass Valley Group Don Davis P.O. Box 1114, Mail Stop N3-2E Grass Valley, CA 95945 (916) 478-3097

Greater Rochester Cable Harry Goldberg 71 Mount Hope Ave Rochester, NY 14620 (716) 325-1111

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Horizon Production, Inc. Bill Jacobs 2321 Kemper Ln Cincinnatti, OH 45206 (513) 559-0550

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MII Users Association of America Membership Listing

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KRBK-TV

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XXXV

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(413) 665-2946

Legal Media Center Kevin McInturff 4151 SW Freeway Suite 715 Houston, TX 77027 (713) 963-0397

Lentz & Associates
LA Lentz
PO Box 6181
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Little Fort Media Weldon Johnson 113-115 N Genesee Waukegan, IL 60085 (708) 244-9666

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Marvin Mitchell Video Communications Systems Rochester, MN 55905 (507) 284-2511

Mayo Clinic Asa Floyd 4500 San Pablo Rd. Jacksonville, FL 32224 (904) 223-2672

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MII Users Association of America Membership Listing continued from previous page

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(804) 274-3721

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Seattle, WA 98121 (206) 441-1182

MII Users Association of America Membership Listing continued from previous page

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Ralph Graves Productions, Inc.
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103
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(301) 986-4577

Reed Film & Video Lloyd Reed 4501 Sonata Court Fairfax, VA 22031 (703) 978-5988

Riverside Film & TV
Productions
Rob Richardson, Jr.
PO Box 543
Marrietta, OH 45750
(614) 373-0861

Russell & Associates
Sam Russell
P.O. Box 877
Marion, VA 24354
(703) 783-2251

Sakolsky Productions
Rerry Sakolsky
700 Biltmore Way, Suite 1202
Coral Gables, FL 33134
(305) 441-1935

Sallie Mae Charlie Hite 200 Fairbrook Dr Herndon, VA 22070 (703) 834-5737

Sandia National Laboratories
Jim Lloyd
Organization 7212
P.O. Box 5800
Albuquerque, NM 87185
(505) 844-3867

Southern Illinois University John Kautzer Campus Box 1775 Edwardsville, IL 62026 (618) 692-2230

Sigma Broadcasting
Don Vest
PO Box 4150
Ft Smith, AR 72914
(501) 783-4040

Sign Media Inc.
Verden Ness
4020 Blackburn Road
Burtonsville, MD 20866
(301) 421-0268

Smokey Hills Public TV Lloyd Mintzmeyer PO Box 9 Bunker, RS 67626 (913) 483-6990

Southern States Cooperative Paul Charles 6606 W. Broad St. Richmond, VA 23230 (804) 281-1285

Strickland Video & Film Support John Strickland 2972 Chipmonk Trail Marietta, GA 30067 (404) 988-0803

S & W Productions
Terry Schmitt
Tom Prigge
459 Broyles Ave
Paducah, RY 42003
(502) 554-3057

Tentel
Chuck Fodor
4475 Colden Foothills Pkwy
El Dorado Hills, CA 95630
(800) 538-6894

TPI Productions-Bill Perkins 5410 Goldsboro Road Bethesda, MD 20817 (301) 320-5979 TVF Productions
John Salter
1612 N. Oak St.
Valdosta, GA 31602
(912) 244-9597

UCLA-Behavioral Sciences Media Lab NPI Gary Lord 760 Westwood Plaza Los Angeles, CA 90024 (213) 825-0448

United Artists Cable Peter Strang-Wolf 421 Allwood Rd Clifton, NJ 07012 (201) 779-2444

United States Marine Corps Captain Glenn USMC Documentation Unit Quantico, VA 22134 (703) 640-2878

Versatile Video Services, Inc. Terry Burke P.O. Box 333 Yorktown, IN 47396 (317) 759-4747

Vertex Video Group Steven Zacharoff 1680 Bedford Ave. #22D Brooklyn, NY 11225 (718) 756-0438

Video Concepts

Bob Ramacher/Kevin Harrington

1295 S. Kihei Rd, Suite J

Kihei, Maui, Hawaii 96753

(808) 879-1329

Video Duplication David Heslin 3095 Presidential Dr. Ste P Atlanta, GA 30340 (800) 235-9732

Videoland Productions
Mitch McGeary
805-C College St.SE
Lacey, WA 98503
(206) 491-1332

Video Management Systems
Dan Hall
1004 E. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202
(317) 639-6163

Video on Location Jimmy & Dino Veizis 11600 Nebel St. Rockville, MD 20852 (301) 984-5823

Video Spectrum
Wayne Stephaney
630 Hedgewick Dr
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 394-4042

Video Supply Sales Co. Mark Radford 3440 Oakcliff Rd. Suite 112 Atlanta, GA 30340 (404) 458-2468

Video-Tech Production Alan Thureby P.O. Box 2251 1602 Melrose Ct. Decatur, IL 62526 (217) 877-9422

VIDTEK
James Lillis
9235 W. Capital Dr
Milwaukee, WI 53222
(414) 466-7488

Virginia Baptist Board Glenn Starling P.O. Box 8568 Richmond, VA 23226 (804) 672-2100

Vision Enterprises
Michael
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(703) 382-0451

Vlahos Communications Harvey Vlahos State RT 156 Altamont, NY 12009 (518) 861-8176

MII Users Association of America Membership Listing continued from previous page

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VPM Studios Gene Casaroll 13761 Bell Court Stirling Heights, MI 48312 (313) 939-8680

Washington Natural Gas John Cox 815 Mercer Street Seattle, WA 98111 (206) 622-6767

Washington Professional Systems Mike Gerry 11157 Viers Mill Rd Wheaton, MD 20902

West Net Video
Bob Abrahamson
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Humble, TX 77346
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(301) 942-6800

WEWS-TV
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3001 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44115
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WFLA
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(813) 228-8888

WFTS
Luis Romero
Jean Varn
4501 E Columbus Dr
Tampa, FL 33605
(813) 623-2828

WHIZ-TV Elmer Hartmeyer 629 Downard Rd. Zanesville, OH 43701 (614) 453-4079 Wiegand Audio/Video Labs Charles Wiegand 7758 Lafayette Rd, NW Newark, OH 43055 (614) 967-0059

Windstar Studios

Dan Lawson/Mike Wemple

525 Communications Cir.

Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 635-0422

WJAC
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1949 Hickory Ln
Johnstown, PA 15905
(814) 255-7600

WJZY Ed McKay PO Box 668400 Charlotte, NC 28266-8400 (704) 398-0046

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WPRI
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WPSD-Engineering Dept. Jim Franklin P.O. Box 1197 Paducah, KY 42002-1197 (502) 442-8214

WPTV
Edward J. Roos
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Palm Beach, FL 33480
(407) 655-5455

WRAL
Ron Tyndall
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Harris Sullivan 4001 Nebraska Avenue Washington, DC 20016 (202) 885-4133

WTTV

Fred Baumgrtner

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WIVO
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(815) 963-5413

WXYZ
Mike Doback
PO Box 789
Southfield, MI 48037
(313) 827-9490

If you are not currently a member of the MII Users Association of America and would like to join, please contact us by phone, fax or mail at:

MII Users Association of America c/o GMG International, Inc. 8580 Cinderbed Road, Suite 1000 Newington, VA 22122

(800) 966-1030

339-0764

(703)

fax (

June Survey Results

Here are the survey results for the month of June 1991.

- 1. Was your purchase of MII equipment more related to the reputation of the manufacturer (Panasonic or JVC) or the features of the MII machines?
- 3.3% Based on price
- 15.0% Based on manufacturers reputation
- 81.6% Based on machine features
- 2. Was your MII purchase an equipment upgrade or an equipment replacement?
- 8.3% New facility
- 21.6% Equipment replacement
- 70.0% Equipment upgrade
- 3. What format were you using prior to MII?
- 1.6% MI
- 1.6% 8mm
- 3.3% Hi8
- 5.0% Betacam
- 5.0% Betacam SP
- 6.6% 2 inch Quad
- 15.0% SVHS
- 18.3% 3/4 inch SP
- 20.0% VHS
- 20.0% 1 inch
- 73.3% 3/4 inch
- 4. Please list your MII equipment (models & quantities).

(Percentage of respondents using these models)

Panason	ic	m JVC	
AU-60	21.6%	KRM-260	3.3%
AU-62	11.6%	KRM-460	10%
AU-63	20.0%	KRM-800	13%
AU-65	28.3%	KRM-820	11.6%
AU-400	20.0%	KRM-860	3.3%
AU-410	5.0%		
AU-500	53.3%		
AU-520	11.6%		
AU-505	8.3%		
AU-550	3.3%		
AU-620	11.6%		
AU-630	3.3%		
AU-640	1.6%		
AU-650	40.0%		
AU-660	20.0%		
AU-665	3.3%		

Monthly Survey Questions

Each month the users association will poll users on specific MII issues and publish the results in the next newsletter. This months questions are:

1. What Edit Controller(s) are you currently using with your MII Editing configuration(s)? N/A [] Do not do editing
Make and Model of
Controller(s)
MII Machine models
If interformat, format(s) and machine models
2. How would you rate the edit controllers performance in your configuration? Excellent [] Very Good [] Good [] Fair [] Poor []
Comments
3. Are you having any problems with your controller? If so, please describe briefly. Problems? No [] Yes []
4. How has service and support been from the edit controller company? Excellent [] Very Good [] Good [] Fair [] Poor []
Comments

It is most important for the membership that you respond to these questions, either by mail phone or by fax as soon as possible. Thank you for your input.

24 hour fax line (703) 339-0764 Phone (800) 966-1030 or (703) 339-8500 or Mail to:

> MII Users Association of America c/o GMG International, Inc. 8580 Cinderbed Rd. Suite 1000 Newington, VA 22122 ATTN: Debbie